



DISES New Student Representative

Jacob Hackett

Hello to the wonderful DISES community including DISES Student and Professional Members!!

My name is Jacob (Jake) Hackett, and I am the new Student Representative to the DISES board and broader community.

I am eager to represent the diverse needs of student DISES members, including:

- Providing a student voice during DISES board meetings
- Developing and promoting ways to deliver DISES information to the student community
- Increasing DISES student membership

Currently, I'm a doctoral candidate in the Special Education Department at the University of Washington (UW). As a doctoral candidate I'm both writing my dissertation as well as instructing courses in the teacher education program. I am also a field placement supervisor for pre-service teacher candidates. My international work includes identifying school and community supports for effective inclusion in Cambodian schools, as well as partnering with an interdisciplinary group of professionals in Bulgaria to support inclusive teacher practices and school policies.

As far as my research interests, they include:

- Identifying and promoting teacher supports for inclusion of students with special needs, particularly in poverty-impacted communities.
- Designing tools to support co-teachers.
- Preparing teachers for culturally and linguistically diverse students with special needs in poverty-impacted, particularly urban, communities.

Prior to entering the PhD program at University of Washington, I was a special educator in Atlanta, Georgia, USA. While teaching in Atlanta, I worked both within and outside of the school system to improve outcomes of students in inclusive classroom settings, as well as community settings. I partnered with community organizations to support students in 'informal' educational settings to develop mentoring programs and increase student confidence to better our communities. I was also an active union representative to improve the teaching conditions for Atlanta Public Schools teachers.

A special 'thank you' is in order for all of the previous DISES Student Representatives, particularly Jackie Rodriguez, who have laid the foundation for strong student leadership. I am attempting to continue with their leadership momentum to increase student membership and student activity in

the DISES community. Please continue to submit student nominations to our Newsletter student spotlight as well as blogging on our website each month.

Remember, that the DISES website maintains a very nice **STUDENT SECTION** and we invite you to visit it frequently. Also, we continue to accept contributions from DISES Student members for **Spotlight** and **Blog** posts!

Each month a DISES Student member will be **Spotlighted** in the student section of the DISES website.

- In order to submit an abstract for the Spotlight, the student needs to adhere to a 150-200-word parameter.
- The abstract should include
 - Cultural background,
 - Education,
 - Research interest and/or teaching experience,
 - Interest in international special education.
- The student's picture will accompany the spotlight post!
- Check out the [Current Student Spotlight Here!](#)

**If you are interested in submitting a VIDEO of your spotlight instead of text, please contact me and I will help you develop the video!

[Submit Your Spotlight Here!](#)

Student members can also choose to write for the **Student Blog** on the webpage.

- In order to submit a blog post, themes have been pre-selected and students can choose from 24 themes in the submission form.
- Blog submissions should be within a 300-500 word parameter.
- Include both the native language and the English language translation.
- Student's picture will be posted alongside the blog post!

[Submit Your Blog Post Here!](#)

Student members who have professional blogs can submit them to be linked from the student section of the DISES website for direct access by DISES members and non-members alike. Consider sending me your blog web address so that it can be linked. We are looking for:

- Instructional blogs
- Research Blogs
- Programming and Collaboration Blogs

Please feel free to inquire with me or other DISES members concerning any questions about student membership involvement. I look forward to meeting with any students who are attending the DISES Roundtable in Israel, August 2015!!

With gratitude,

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